

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Rumania	REPORT NO.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 1.2em;"></div>
SUBJECT	Military Labor Detachments	DATE DISTR.	28 July 1953
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THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
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1. Young men considered to be of "unhealthy social origin" and those considered enemies of the people's regime are not drafted by the army for its regular military units. The young men belonging to the above mentioned categories are detached to labor units.
2. An "unhealthy social origin" is attributed to the sons of: former officers, former high ranking government employees, "bourgeois", kulaks (rich villagers), former politicians (Peasant Party, Liberal Party, Cuza Party, Iron Guards) and families of nationalities considered as enemies of the regime, such as German and Yugoslav minorities.
3. This category of young men are trained only in the "individual training". They are taught to march, for parade purposes; they do not undergo military training and do not carry arms, being considered unworthy of such confidence.
4. In the labor detachments, the service is two years. The soldiers of these units are dressed in gray uniforms. The uniforms are made out of a very bad cloth. The cut of the uniforms is similar to that of the regular army uniforms.
5. The labor units are commanded by former officers and sub-officers of the old army. They have been dismissed and then recalled to active duty. The officers and sub-officers are supervised by officers of the political staff. The political officers also carry out the political training of the soldiers. Their aim is to reeducate them in order to make them be "good auxiliaries in the socialist society".
6. The soldiers are organized in platoons, with three squads in each platoon and ten soldiers in each squad. Each company has four platoons, which means a complement of 120 men.

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7. Large units with complements of 2,000 to 3,000 men are called labor detachments. These units are used to carry out any military construction projects such as barracks, depots, warehouses, airports as well as sewers, pipes, water and electricity installations for the same buildings. The labor units carry out also works of public utility such as tunnels, railroads, bridges, et cetera, but the military works are given priority.
8. The labor units are under the orders of the Ministry of the Armed Forces, Office of Military Constructions. The office work and the guard of the labor units is carried out by regular army troops.
9. Labor units are to be found all over the country wherever there is military construction. Source knows of such units existing at: Timisoara, Lugoj, Craiova, Bucharest, Buzau, Ploesti, Stalin, Medgidia, Constanta, Focsani.

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